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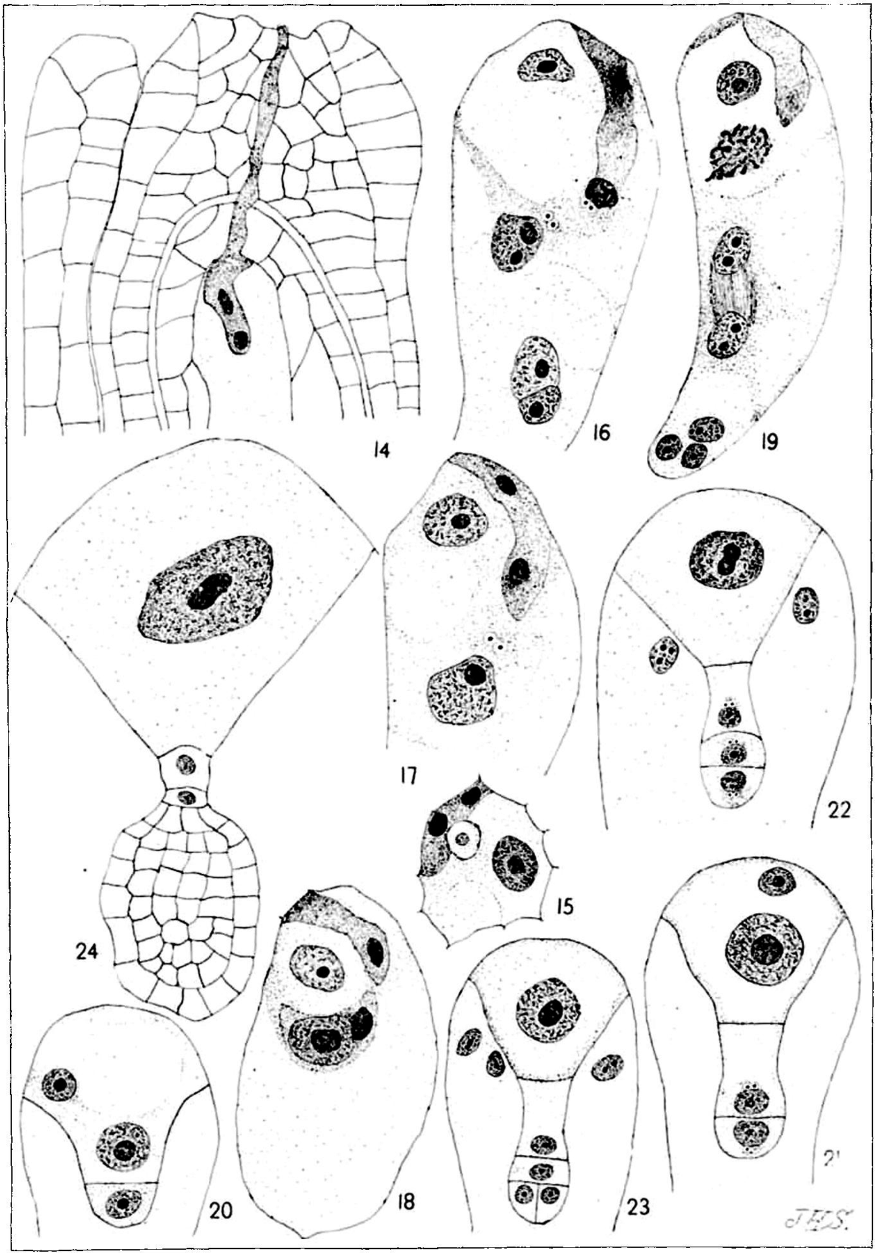

SCHAFFNER on ALISMA.

BOTANICAL GAZETTE

JANUARY, 1896.

Notes on Carex. XVIII.

L. H. BAILEY.

WITH PLATE I.

1. CAREX IN THE CHECK-LIST.—There are two or three features of the Carex catalogue in the "List of Pteridophyta and Spermatophyta" which do not represent my own views (although my name is attached to the article), and to which I wish briefly to advert. My chief reason for discussing the subject is to bring up one or two features of the nomenclature of the Check-List.

a. My first remark has reference to the double or algebraic citation of authorities. It is admittedly the purpose of all citation of authority to identify the name; giving honor or "credit" to the author of the name is no part of the object. If we adopt the double citation system, we enclose in our parenthesis the name of the author of the given specific or varietal name, and this is followed by the author of the accepted combination; or if only one name is cited, it is understood to stand for both the creation and the combination. Thus, *Carex granularis Haleana* (Olney) Porter, means that the name Haleana was first proposed by Olney and was placed in combination with Carex granularis by Porter. But now suppose that Olney himself, instead of Porter, had later attached the name to Carex granularis. The proper citation would, in that case, certainly be *Carex granularis Haleana* (Olney) Olney.

But this method the Check-List does not allow, although I do not know why. Attention was called to it at least twice when the List was going through the press.

Let us take a concrete example. Carex no. 772 in the list is *Carex cephaloidea* Dewey, Rep. Pl. Mass. 262. (1840).

This citation indicates that the word cephaloidea was first used for a Carex by Dewey in the Catalogue of Massachusetts Plants published in 1840, otherwise there should have been a double citation; but the name was really made four years before this time, and it is so stated in the synonymy: *Carex muricata* var. *cephaloidea* Dewey, Amer. Journ. Sci. **11:** 308. 1836.

Now if John Smith had first made cephaloidea, his name would have appeared in the parenthesis; then why not Dewey's? Certainly no personal element can enter into the matter, and if the double citation is worth anything, it is valuable only in proportion as it adheres to the principle of keeping tally of the two points in the history of the trivial name—its creation and its latest use. The citation, therefore, should be *Carex cephaloidea* (Dewey) Dewey.

The only reason which I have ever heard for the refusal to cite the same authority twice is that it gives the author too much "credit"; but certainly credit can be no part of nomenclature. I am not urging this repetition of the same author because I believe in the double citation of authorities, but because I should like to see the system consistent with itself.

It seems that "credit" is really too much concerned in the promulgation of this system of double or parenthetical citation of authorities. At all events, I am not convinced that the system has intrinsic merits in any superlative degree. I cannot conceive that a system of botanical nomenclature should have for its object a record of the history or migrations of names. Its sole purpose should be to designate particular plants unmistakably and concisely, and the authority is cited only for the purpose of distinguishing the name which John Smith makes from a like name which James Brown may chance to make. If, however, the authority is to constitute a history and lexicon of the name, it should comprise the complete history, and should have a parenthesis for every occasion in which the name has changed hands, or changed places. If the citation is to include an index of the synomymy, let us have the whole of it. I do not know why we should select out the first and last points and omit all the intermediate events. For instance, *Carex mirabilis* was described by Dewey; it was made a variety of *C. festucacea* by Carey; of *C. cristata* by Gray; of *C. lagopodioides* by Olney; and of *C. straminea* by Tuckerman. Then the citation of authorities should be: *Carex straminea mirabilis* (Dewey) (Carey) (Gray) (Olney) Tuckerm.

If one were to make any full discussion of this subject upon its merits, he would need to decide first of all what a name is. This question lies at the very bottom of the present unrest in nomenclature, yet it is one which is not freely discussed by itself. Most of the attention of controversialists is given to special and generally subsidiary points in nomenclature. Is the name of the plant—that form of expression by which it is to be distinguished from all other plants—one word or two, the original specific or varietal name or the combination of these with the generic name? Is nomenclature monomial or binomial? Is *bullata*, or *Carex bullata*, the name of a sedge? If bullata is the name, then I must give this name to no other plant for I shall then introduce confusion; that is, I shall make synonymous names. Linnæus is supposed to have taught that a name has two coordinate and essential parts, and that either part alone is not capable of designating any particular plant. How, then, do we introduce a different system and then take Linnæus as our starting point?

A name of any natural object must have two elements: it must unequivocally designate the object; and it must have some element of permanency in usage. Now, *bullata* does not designate my plant; it does not distinguish if the plant is Carex, Salix or Cabbage. But *Carex bullata* is designative, and it has more elements of permanency than bullata from the very fact that it is explicit, and also because the combination of the two words—Carex and bullata—is likely to be more recent, and therefore better understood, than the creation of either one alone. The proposed new nomenclature is boisterous for stability. Very well! But why is not a combination of two words just as "stable" as one word? It is easier to get at the proper combination than it is at the origin of the single word, because the combination, as I have said, is the more recent event. Why not tie up at the first safe landing place, rather than to run forever backward in a profitless search of some shipwrecked name?

b. My second advertence to the Check-List is in reference to the exaltation of the varietal name. It was not my privilege to attend the meeting of the Botanical Club at Madison, but it is recorded that a resolution was introduced "that the varietal name be subject to the same laws of permanency as those which govern the specific," and that after nine persons had discussed the proposition "the Club adjourned without reaching a vote." (BOT. GAZ. **18:** 343.) The other three propositions submitted by the committee on nomenclature at that time were adopted. It is clear that there was at least much doubt amongst the members as to the wisdom of treating the varietal name with the same exactness as we treat the specific name; yet, in the face of this lack of support for the proposition and virtual refusal of it, this same committee itself adopts a rule "that the original name is to be maintained whether published as species, subspecies or variety." I think it is only fair for me to say, therefore, that the manuscript for Carex in the Check-List was prepared with the customary or old-time treatment of varietal names, and that the following numbers do not represent my own desires, at least not until the whole question of nomenclature shall have been passed upon by some organization fairly representing the botanists of the world: 765, 785, 808, 867, 888, 901, 902, 955, 958.

c. My third remark upon the Check-List concerns the suppression of names printed without description or synonymy. Such names, and those occurring in exsiccatæ, are held not to have been "published." Wahlenberg published *Carex glareosa* in 1803. Dewey published *C. ursina* in 1835. In 1884, I wrote *Carex glareosa* var. *ursina* in my Carex Catalogue without synonymy or comment except to add "*Arc. Am.*" to designate range; and under *Carex ursina* Dewey, I said "see *glareosa.*" Of course, this is not publication, yet no one could mistake what I meant. I find in the Check-List:

Carex glareosa ursina (Dewey) Britton.

. . . .

Carex glareosa var. *ursina* Bailey, Carex Cat. (1884), name only.

Now, I do not object to the name ursina standing to the authority of "(Dewey) Britton," for my own cataloguing of it ought not to stand for a publication; but it seems to me to be a good principle to enunciate that *if a given name is so unmistakable that it can be cited as a synonym, it is also sufficiently unmistakable to be cited as a valid name.* That is, if *nomina nuda* are held not to have been published, then they can be cited neither as valid names nor as synonyms, for synonyms are only published names which have been laid aside for the time.

d. Another point of which I wish to speak is the reference of *Carex microglochin* to the genus Uncinia. The see-saw between Carex and Uncinia has upset this poor little plant from the days of Wahlenberg and Sprengel. The technical character of the racheola appearing in the perigynium seems to put it into Uncinia, but many of our common carices develop racheola occasionally. Uncinia is now accepted rather more upon habit than upon this one technical character, and nearly all the later treatment of the genus refers the plant in question to Carex.

2. **Carex Hassei,** n. sp.—Pacific coast representative of the type of *C. laxiflora:* differs in paler color and much narrower leaves; and especially in the perigynium, which is about as long as the scale, not trigonous nor beaked, the point only slightly bent, not striate or stipe-like at base, the walls thin and soft; scale broad, the point scarcely cusp-like; bracts rarely leaf-like.—In a meadow, San Antonio Cañon, San Bernardino range, California, 4,500^{ft} altitude. H. E. Hasse, July, 1894.

3. **Carex multimoda,** n. sp.—(*C. festiva* var. *gracilis*, authors). *Carex festiva*, the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast representative of *Carex straminea*, is one of the most perplexing carices in the American flora. A good part of the confusion arises, however, from the fact that the species is made to comprise many unlike forms. If two or three of these outlying forms were to be set off as specifically distinct, the species would be much easier to understand. The plants commonly referred to var. *gracilis*, which I now erect into a species, are very slender, with narrow leaves (lacking wholly the stiff aspect of *C. festiva*), the spikes small and mostly massed into a little tawny or dark head; points of the narrow perigynia generally conspicuously spreading.—Seems to be distributed from the Sierras of California to British Columbia. More closely allied to *C. subfusca* W. Boott, than to *C. festiva*. *C. subfusca* is more *straminea*-like, with more distinct roundish spikes, and a stiffer habit.

4. **Carex Idahoa,** n. sp.—A dioecious member of the Microrhynchæ, but with three stigmas, and not closely related to any carex which I know; possibly *C. salina* is its nearest kin. Tall and slender (about 2^{ft} high), the culm exceeding the flat rather short leaves; spikes generally three on both staminate and pistillate culms (sometimes one on staminate culm), all close together but the terminal one twice longer than the others (about an inch long, and cylindrical), the lowest

one generally on a stalk a fourth inch long, all of them ferrugineous in color; bracts very short, only the lowermost prominent and that one little exceeding the pedicel of the spike; perigynium very small, trigonous and not inflated, smooth and nearly or wholly nerveless, contracted both ways, abruptly terminated in a short and entire beak; scale twice longer than the perigynium, lance-pointed, the margin dull brown and the mid-nerve broad and lighter colored.—Beaver Cañon, Idaho, Aug. 7, 1895. P. A. Rydberg (no. 2,339).

5. **Carex Congdoni,** n. sp.—Closest ally of *C. Yosemitana* Bailey (*C. Sartwelliana* Olney), from which it differs in the nearly or quite complete absence of pubescence on the leaves and sheaths, an androgynous terminal spike (pistillate at top), and especially in the shape of the perigynium, which is lanceolate and very gradually attenuated into the beak-like top, and slightly toothed. The perigynium of *C. Yosemitana* is ovoid, prominently widened above the middle and very abruptly contracted or rounded into a short and entire beak; that of *C. Congdoni* is narrowly lanceolate or spindle-shape. I suspect that the terminal spike of C. Congdoni may be found to be sometimes wholly staminate. The Atlantic ally of these plants is *C. vestita* Willd.—California: Mt. Warren Pass, Tuolumne county, and east side of Mt. Warren, Mono county. J. W. Congdon, 1894.

6. **Carex Arkansana,** n. sp.—(*C. rosea* Schk., var.? *Arkansana* Bailey, BOT. GAZ. **13:** 87.) Sufficient material has now accumulated to show the true character of this plant, and it is clearly unlike *C. rosea.* It differs in its larger and glomerate spikes, the very broad and prominently spongy-based perigynium, and particularly by the two or three leafy bracts (from 1 to 5^{in} long) which subtend the lower spikes. It differs also from *Carex Muhlenbergii* var. *australis* by its slender habit and long narrow leaves, by the long and leafy bracts, and especially by the spongy and broad-based perigynium. I have the plant from La Fourche creek, near Little Rock, Arkansas (H. E. Hasse; the original locality), and from three places in Indian Territory: Muskogee, M. A. Carleton, 1891, (no. 79); Sapulpa, B. F. Bush, 1895, (nos. 979, 981 and 1,038); Catale, B. F. Bush, 1895, (no. 995).

7. **Carex Eggertii,** n. sp.—An ally of *Carex bullata* Schw., but more *lupulina*-like: coarser, with broad flat leaves; spikes two to four and approximate, whitish, longer than in

C. bullata, much more erect, looser; perigynium prominently ascending, long-pointed, coarsely several-nerved, little or not at all glossy nor red-brown at maturity, the beak rough and deeply toothed; achenium of characteristic shape, being very sharply triquetrous but short, each of the three angles being produced into a callous point at the middle, so as to make the achenium nearly equally six-sided. The perigynium is much larger than that of *C. bullata*, more inflated and gradually tapering into the long beak.—In a swamp, "growing as single individuals from runners," Butler county, Missouri. Henry Eggert. My first impression of this carex was that it might be a hybrid, but studies of various specimens from collections by Mr. Eggert have led me to regard it as a good species. Mr. Eggert is also of the opinion that it is not a hybrid. It is uniformly fruitful, which carex hybrids are not likely to be.

8. CAREX ALBICANS Willd. in herb.; Spreng. Syst. Veg. **3:** 818. 1826. *C. Emmonsii* Dewey, var. *elliptica* Boott Illustr. 97, *pl. 287*. 1860. *C. Peckii* Howe, Rept. State Bot. N. Y. 1894, 40 (in 47th Rep. N. Y. Mus. Nat. Hist.). This is certainly a well-marked species, and, as Dr. Howe remarks, it is allied rather more to *C. deflexa* than to *C. varia*. It ranges from New England and Pennsylvania to Minnesota and northwards, and it probably occurs south of this limit. It is distinguished from *C. varia* by its lighter color, fewer and much shorter and broader leaves, which are greatly overtopped by the stiff straight culms, and by the closely glomeratespikelets and mostly very inconspicuous staminate spike, and the rather longer perigynium. *C. varia* has slender and generally curved or weak culms which are commonly overtopped by the dark narrow and long-pointed profuse leaves, mostly separated spikes and prominently protruding staminate spike. Willdenow's name, *C. albicans*, is an appropriate one, denoting the light color of the plant, although it appears to have been chosen because of the light-colored spikes. Willdenow's specimen is said to have come from North Carolina. *Plate I* admirably distinguishes the species.

9. CAREX GRANDIS Bailey, var. **Helleri,** n. var.—Differs from the species in the smallness of its stature and spikes (10–15$^{\text{in}}$ high), and narrow lax leaves; spikes two to three, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}^{\text{in}}$ long, contiguous near the top of the culm.—Franklin county, southeastern Virginia, "in the shade in a well wooded

and very soft swamp, in company with Saururus cernuus, Dianthera ovata, and Proserpinaca palustris." A. A. Heller (no. 989), June, 1893.

10. CAREX QUADRIFIDA Bailey, var. **caeca,** n. var.—Smaller than the species (10–16$^{\text{in}}$ tall); heads uniform dull dark brown; spikes four or five, the lowest one sometimes an inch remote, a half inch or less long, mostly small and slender; perigynium smaller than in the species; scales equaling or exceeding the perigynium, broad, not sharp-pointed; culms rather slender, considerably exceeding the broadish, long-pointed leaves.—Tanquitz Meadow, San Jacinto mountains, San Diego county, California, 8,000$^{\text{ft}}$ altitude. H. E. Hasse, July 1892. Perhaps a good species.

11. CAREX NEBRASKENSIS Dewey, var. **ultriformis,** n. var.—More like the var. *prævia* Bailey (*C. Jamesii* Torr.) than the type of *C. Nebraskensis*, but differs in the habitually much narrower leaves ($\frac{3}{16}^{\text{in}}$ or less wide), and particularly in the short, often almost globular spikes (which are $\frac{1}{2}^{\text{in}}$ or less long).—Ritzville, Adams County, Washington, 1,700$^{\text{ft}}$ altitude. J. H. Sandberg and J. B. Leiberg (no. 194), 1893.

12. CAREX FETA Bailey, var. **multa**, n. var.—*Carex feta* generally has a long and loose head of well separated and more or less rounded or cylindrical-conical spikes, but the proposed variety *multa* has less defined and looser or more chaff-like spikes in a glomerate and often compound head. This variety is to *C. feta* what var. *cumulata* is to the eastern *C. albolutescens*. I have it from San Jacinto Mountains, San Diego County, California, and from two stations in Oregon.

13. **Carex prasina × crinita,** n. hyb.—A well marked hybrid of these two species has been found at Summit, N. Jersey, by J. R. Churchill, and in Summers County, West Virginia, by C. F. Millspaugh. Judge Churchill's specimens have more the aspect of *C. prasina*, whilst Dr. Millspaugh's seem rather more to resemble *C. crinita*, especially in the foliage. Both collections lack the robustness of *C. crinita*.

14. **Carex scabrata × crinita** Fernald in herb., was collected in 1891, on Mt. Clinton, N. H., by Dr. Geo. G. Kennedy. It seems to be a very good intermediate between the two species, although apparently losing something in size and vigor.

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